

Funding the Fuels for Military
Performance -
Better Input. Better Outcome:



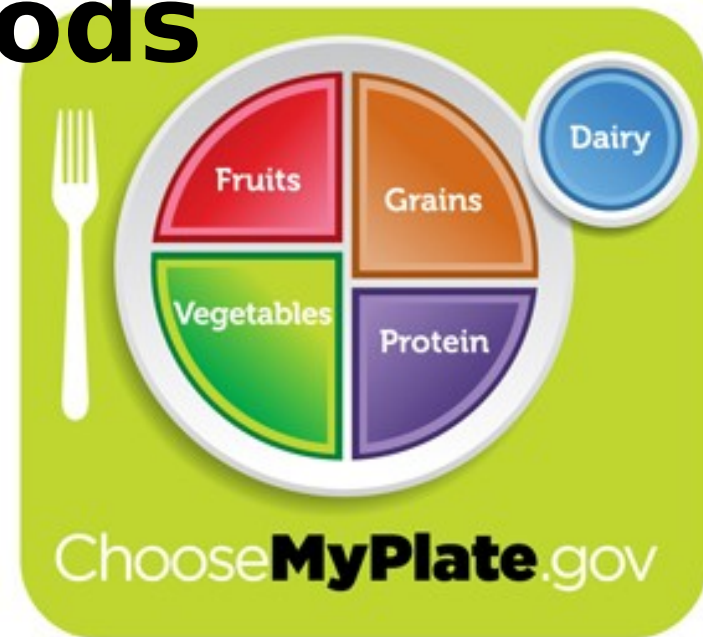
Food Cost Index & Basic Daily Food Allowance

It's Time to Get in Step with

National Nutrition Standards

FCI and BDFA Alternative Methods

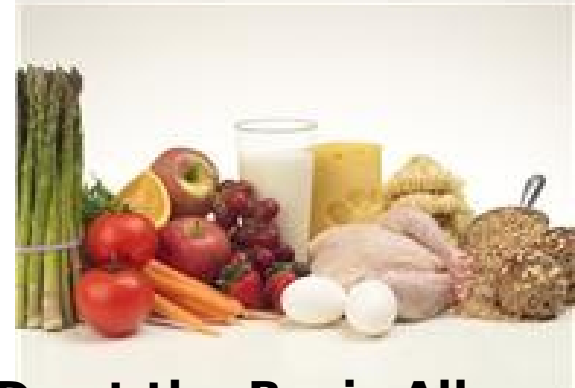
- **Gap:** Current FCI is **not** aligned with National / DoD Nutrition standards; underfunded DFACs are not obtaining required nutrient dense products
- **Task:** To evaluate FCI and variety of alternatives IOT develop a realistic FCI/BDFA **that supports DOD's Menu Standards and USDA's "My Plate" guidance**
- **Objectives:** satisfied customer, improved performance, lower recovery time of sick & injured, rational system, reasonable cost



- **Consider:** Synchronizing approach used for Basic Allowance for Subsistence to set the BDFA for DFAC operations. DFACs offer best meals (healthiest choices & well accepted) to serve both

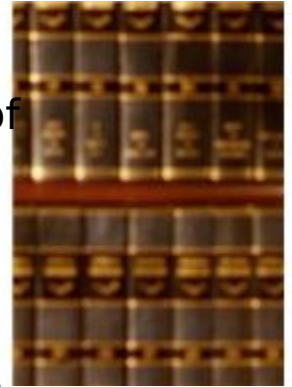
FCI and BDFA Alternative Methods

- **USDA Center for Nutrition Policy & Promotion (Dr. Mark Lino)**
- **The USDA's four Food Plans (Thrifty, Low-Cost, Moderate-Cost, and Liberal) serve as national standards for nutritious diets at various cost levels.**
- **Each of 4 USDA Food Plans has a specified market basket of different foods representing household staples (different products, and different preparation requirements, at different cost levels but all are nutritious)**



- **DoD set the Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) at the mid point between the USDA Moderate & Liberal Food Plans in FY 2003**
- **? Should similar rationale be used to set the BDFA for DFAC operations serving both Subsistence in Kind (SIK) and cash customers.**
- **? Should the BDFA be derived from the same data set as BAS**

USDA Food Plan Parameters



- The Institute of Medicine (**IOM**) - health arm of National Academy of Sciences, part of the National Academies, defined targets for US: Adult Male (19-50 yrs.) - **2800 cal**; Female (19-50 yrs.) - **2200 cal**. Civilian data with only a “Moderate” activity level. Military activity level?
- USDA Food Plans now reflect **2005** dietary standards (tbd on 2010), food consumption trends, US average food prices.
- Food Plan Market Baskets **DO NOT** meet Dietary recommendations for **Sodium** (less than 2300 mg) – need major changes in food manufacturing*
- Food waste, Labor saving is factored in costs – e.g. Liberal food plan has precut fruit & vegetables (result: better consumption).
- Updates **Monthly** (Timing of release?): US National food prices collected, adjusted with CPI monthly updates – food costs dependent on weather, fuel etc. - Alaska and Hawaii are separate. (**not designed for non-US Overseas**)
- Weekly Food Cost, July 2012, under USDA Liberal Food Plan for Adult Male - \$83.00; for Adult Female - \$73.70 (daily M \$11.86, F \$10.53)
- **Caution:** IOM Energy (Calories) may be low, especially for Military females
- *Note: Some manufacturers *have* significantly improved Sodium loads; it is one of many characteristics to monitor during product selection/cataloging

Concerns in adopting the USDA Food Plans:



- Accommodate regional / cultural food choices in Food Basket
- Need to provide a cost factor or method for **overseas** operations
(? Use COLA as a guide, Responsive enough?)
- Remote or Higher Calorie Unit BDFA pricing – may need targeted supplemental allowances (budget base 2800 KCal, some special units 3600+ at peak training times)
- Rapid escalation of military food budget violates legal constraints
- All diners not the same - training and mission execution phases, climate & altitude impact, food preferences, job demands, personal bio-chemistry, etc.
- BAS (Basic Allowance for Subsistence)- uses moderate & liberal Food plans – set percentage – annual update – distinction between officer and enlisted personnel.
- Why is BAS different from BDFA?
 - The BAS is pay element for military personnel to purchase ingredients at the retail level for personal meal production. BAS adjustment frequency: Annually; BAS region: one for entire world; BAS personnel level adjustment: different for officers versus enlisted

Variables to consider



- My Plate Standards based on a 2000 calorie per day diet. Military baseline higher; nutrients not exactly proportionate, but similar distribution to MyPlate
- The USDA Liberal Food Plan is designed for a 2200-2800 calorie diet.
 - Army - male requirement variable 2600-3000 calories.
 - Marine Corp recruit menus are 3250 calories average.
 - Special Operations Forces, Navy Seals, Army Rangers, training/mission regimen requires a higher intake per day (3250-5500 calories).
- The food cost index baseline and appropriate adjustments by DoD must support a sufficient and variable BDFA
- MRDI published in AR 40-25; need standardized translation to model menus, recipes, correct ingredients
- At issue is how the calories are distributed and costs are divided over the day
- Should BAS and BDFA be equal?

Way Ahead

- Revise 1338.10 – referred FCI to align with USDA Food Plan list, with some adjustments IAW AR 40-25 & global subsistence costs
- Adopt USDA Liberal Food Plan budget as the start point
- Adjust via targeted supplemental allowances for exceptional locations, extreme caloric unit requirements
- Monitor for execution of menu standards, Waste & Waist, and moderate “frivolous” non-nutritive products on catalogs
- LEGAL review, legal changes – current constraints limit % annual change – revise to support price structure of healthier items within basic calculations.
- Get: Enhanced performance, healthier nation, reduced medical costs, logical and defensible systematic approach

Forward Progress



Who are the decisive elements

- JSPB
- Services and Joint Logistics Chiefs
- DoD Nutrition
- DoD Medical

Tasks:
• “ultimate decider” Funds change

- Evaluate thesis
- Pilots needed?
- Interim & Final REGULATION UPDATES
- LOI, Process Standardization
- Review/Inspection Standards

• Legal Changes

- New world
- Process Experts
- Supporting Data
- Budget Experts
- Length of Time

• Measure Impact

- Logistics
- Budget
- Operator Training
- Diner Satisfaction
- Performance & Health
- OVER Time